



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

28 AUGUST 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – Border Patrol Agents Locate Smuggling Tunnel

(U) Border Patrol agents discovered a tunnel running under the US-Mexico border on 26 August in San Diego, apparently used for illegal immigration, authorities said. Agents detained about 30 people including Mexican and Chinese nationals. No drugs were found. When agents approached a group of people at the site early Saturday morning, some started running and others went back into the tunnel, leading to its discovery. The tunnel began in a building in Tijuana, more than 300 feet south of the US-Mexico border and ran past a fence at the Otay Mesa Port-of-Entry.

SOURCE: 26 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Virginia – Three More Charged in White Supremacist Protest

(U) Charlottesville – Charlottesville police have announced charges against three more people relating to the 12 August white nationalist rally in Virginia. Police also said Saturday they have now identified 35 victims after a car plowed into a crowd, killing a woman. According to police, 52-year-old Richard Wilson Preston was charged with discharging a firearm within 1,000 feet of a school and was placed in custody in Towson, Maryland. In addition, Daniel Patrick Borden, from Cincinnati, Ohio, and Alex Michael Ramos from Marietta, Georgia, were charged with malicious wounding.

SOURCE: 26 August 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Cameroon – Suspected Boko Haram Militants Kill 16 in Cameroon

(U) Yaounde – Residents say suspected Boko Haram extremists killed at least 16 people and burned homes in two villages in Cameroon's north, near the border with Nigeria. Boko Haram extremists have been crossing into and attacking towns in neighboring countries, including Cameroon, that contribute to a regional military force trying to eliminate the insurgency. Boko Haram is blamed for killing more than 20,000 people in their eight-year existence.

SOURCE: 27 August 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Somalia – Al-Qa'ida Say Senior Al Shabaab Leader Killed

(U) Mogadishu – A senior commander in al Shabaab, Somalia's al-Qa'ida-affiliated extremist group, was killed last month in a US airstrike, the group said on 26 August in an online statement. Somalia said at the time that its military and allied foreign troops had killed the man identified as Ali Moahmed Hussein or Ali Jabal, believed responsible for several bombings. Somalia said last month that Ali Jabal's death would "reduce al Shabaab's ability to conduct senseless acts of violence against the people of Somalia, its East African neighbors, and the international community."

SOURCE: 26 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Suspected Drug Lord faces Extradition to US

(U) London – The alleged mastermind behind a global narcotics smuggling empire has appeared in court after being seized in London in a UK-US operation. Muhammad Asif Hafeez, who was in the Regent's Park area, faces extradition to the US. Hafeez, 58, a Pakistani national, is alleged to be the head of an organization spanning Europe, Africa, Asia and North America, that produced and smuggled drugs including heroin, methamphetamine, and ephedrine. The National Crime Agency worked with the US Drug Enforcement Agency to investigate Hafeez after he was allegedly identified as the source of large quantities of heroin being smuggled into Kenya from Pakistan and Afghanistan.

SOURCE: 25 August 2017, [The Guardian](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Man Attacks Officers near Buckingham Palace

(U) London – London police arrested a second man yesterday in connection with a suspect who drove up to a police van not far from Buckingham Palace then reached for a 4-foot sword, an incident detectives called a terrorism attempt. Scotland Yard said three officers were slightly injured when they confronted the 26-year-old man who allegedly drove at the police van then stopped in a restricted area outside the gates of Queen Elizabeth II's London residence Friday night. The driver reached for the sword in his car and repeatedly shouted "Allahu akbar!" ("God is great" in Arabic) during the incident, police said. The officers used tear gas to incapacitate the man and arrested him at the scene.

SOURCE: 27 August 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Record Fentanyl Seizure by Mexican Military was Headed for Tijuana

(U) Tijuana – As San Diego braces for a record number of deaths this year related to the powerful opioid fentanyl, drug traffickers took a major hit last week when Mexican soldiers seized their largest haul ever — some 140 pounds of powder and nearly 30,000 pills. The drugs were headed to Tijuana but most likely would have made it across the border and into the US. The seizure, announced this week by Mexicali-based Second Military Region, is the largest recorded by the country's National Defense Secretariat.

SOURCE: 25 August 2017, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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